

Taxidermist, of New York, who has no accurate recollection of its locality, but is of the opinion that it came from South America.

I have named this singular and beautiful little species in honour of Mr. Edward Harris, of Moorestown, N. J., Chairman of the Ornithological Committee of this Academy, and a distinguished naturalist.

Genus SYCOBIUS, Vieillot.

Sycobius scutatus, nobis.

♂ Upper part of the head and neck, broad pectoral band and under tail-coverts bright crimson; the crimson of the breast uniting on the sides of the neck with that of the head.

Throat and ears black, which colour forms a large gular patch extending to, but scarcely including the eyes.

All other parts of the body black.

♀ Broad pectoral band and under tail-coverts crimson; all other parts, including the head, black.

Total length of skin, from tip of bill to end of tail, about $5\frac{5}{4}$ inches; wing, $3\frac{5}{8}$; tail, $2\frac{5}{8}$.

Hab. Western Africa.

Two pairs of this species now described were brought to this country by Robert MacDowell, M.D., Surgeon attached to the colonial government of Sierra Leone, who collected them in Western Africa.

It bears a greater resemblance to the *Sycobius rubricollis* (Swainson), Vieill. Ois. Chant. pl. 43, than to any other species which I have found described; but from this and all others it may readily be distinguished by its under tail-coverts being crimson, and also by its broad pectoral band of the same colour.—*Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, vol. iv. p. 157.

Description of a new species of Salamander from Upper California.

By EDWARD HALLOWELL, M.D.

Salamandra lugubris.

Sp. Char.—Head large; eyes very prominent; tail rather longer than the body, which is cylindrical. Head, tail, extremities, and the rest of the animal dark olive above, lighter beneath; an indistinct irregular row of yellowish spots on each side. Several small spots of the same colour upon the neck and upper part of the tail and posterior extremities.

Description.—Head large, swollen at the temples, depressed in front; snout obtuse and somewhat rounded; eyes large, latero-superior; nostrils latero-anterior, small and distant; the palate is provided with two transverse rows of teeth (situated immediately behind the posterior nares), which are incurvated internally and meet posteriorly. There is also a longitudinal row of teeth, separated from those described by an interval of half a line; tongue long and spatulate, very free at its edges, attached by a pedicle at its anterior extremity; neck somewhat contracted, without a gular fold; body and extremities slender, the posterior larger than the anterior; tail compressed, cylindrical, tapering to a point.

Colour. (From a specimen in spirits in the museum of the

Academy.)—The animal above is of a uniform dark olive colour ; an irregular row of small yellowish spots is observed upon the sides of the body near the dorsum ; several are also seen upon the neck, the upper part of the tail, and also the posterior extremities in the specimen examined. The under part of the animal is light olive.

Dimensions.—Length of head $6\frac{1}{2}$ lines ; greatest breadth 6 lines ; length of neck and body to vent 1 inch 11 lines ; length of tail 2 inches 1 line ; total length 4 inches 7 lines.

Hab. Monterey, Upper California. It is said to be abundant in that region.—*Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, vol. iv. p. 126.

The Pine Tree of the Tenasserim Provinces. By the Rev. F. MASON.

Some twenty years ago the residents of Moulmain were not a little surprised to find, among the drift wood of the Salwen, a log of some coniferous tree. This was the first intimation that any tree of the pine tribe grew on the borders of these provinces ; but whether it were of the genus *Pinus*, or *Abies*, or *Larix*, a pine, a fir, or a larch, did not appear. It was several years after this occurrence that one of our former commissioners told the writer he had offered a hundred rupees to any of the foresters who would bring down a spar of this tree. Spars have been subsequently brought down ; but it is believed that Captain Latter, the Superintendent of Forests in these provinces, is the first European who has visited the locality where the tree is indigenous ; and from specimens of the foliage and fruit, which he has brought away with him, it appears to be a new species of *Pinus*, that may be characterized thus :—

P. Latteri. Arbor 50–60 pedalis, cortice scabro, foliis geminis 7–8 uncialibus caniculatis serratis* scabriusculis, strobilis 4 uncialibus ovato-conicis, squamis rhombeis inermibus.

Hab. In provincia *Amherst* : in convalli fluvii *Thoungyeen*.

Descr. A tree of from 50 to 60 feet high or more, and from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 feet or more in diameter. Sheaths of the leaves arranged spirally, tubular, membranous, 6 lines long. Leaves two from each sheath, equal, from 7 to 8 inches long, acute with a sharp point, convex on the back, slightly scabrous with eight rows, in pairs, of very minute thorns which produce a striated appearance, hollow on the under surface, serrated ; cones ovate-conical, nearly 4 inches long. Scales rhomboid, unarmed.

The flower is unknown ; a single ripe cone that had cast its seeds and a small branch being all the materials that have been furnished for description.

Specimens of the wood that have fallen under the writer's notice contain more resinous matter than any other species of Coniferæ he ever saw. It appears like woody fibre immersed in resin. The Karens make tar from the wood by a very simple process ; and large

* Lindley says of the order, "Leaves entire at the margins;" but these are certainly finely serrated ; and I find *P. excelsa* described with leaves "toothleted."